

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF EAST RETFORD

ANNUAL REPORT

for 1938 by

Lieut.-Col. J. M. H. Conway

D.S.O., F.R.C.S.I., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

RETFORD
WHARTONS LIMITED, GROVE STREET
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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT, RETFORD

To the Chairman and Members of the
Rural District Council of East Retford.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the Health of the district for the year 1938, which has been drawn up in accordance with the instructions issued by the Ministry of Health in their Circular, 1728, dated the 25th October, 1938.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. M. H. CONWAY.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area.....	111,024 acres
Estimated Resident Population, mid-year, 1938	19640
Number of inhabited Houses at the end of 1938.....	5020
Rateable Value, £74,313 at 1st April, 1938	
Sum represented by a Penny Rate, £286 16s 0d, at 1st April, 1938	

Vital Statistics

LIVE BIRTHS—		Total	M	F	
Legitimate	..	204	115	89	
Illegitimate	..	10	7	3	
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	..				10.89
Birth Rate for England and Wales per 1,000 population	..				15.1

STILL BIRTHS—		Total	M	F	
Legitimate	..	5	2	3	
Illegitimate	..	1	—	1	
Rate per 1,000 TOTAL births	.. ..				27.3
Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	..				0.31
Rate per 1,000 population in England and Wales	..				0.60

DEATHS—		Total	M	F	
		198	94	104	
Death Rate per 1,000 of the esteemed resident population	..				10.08
Death Rate per 1,000 population in England and Wales	..				11.6
Death Rate adjusted in accordance with the Registrar-General's					
Areal Comparability Factor	.. ..				8.87

MATERNAL MORTALITY—		Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births			
Death from Puerperal causes—					
Puerperal sepsis	Nil			Nil	
Other puerperal causes	Nil			Nil	
Maternal Mortality per 1,000 total births	.. ..				Nil
Maternal Mortality for England and Wales per 1,000 total births					2.97

INFANTILE MORTALITY—		Total	M	F	
Legitimate	..	9	6	3	
Illegitimate	..	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Death Rate of all infants under 1 year of age, per 1,000 live births					42.05
Death Rate of legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	..				44.1
Infantile Mortality for England and Wales	..				53.0

INFANTILE MORTALITY

The number of deaths of infants under one year of age during the year was 9, 6 males and 3 females, giving a Death Rate of 42.0, as compared with that for England and Wales, which is 53.0 This figure is much lower than that for the previous year which was 64.8

Three of these deaths were due to premature birth, 1 to convulsions, 1 to miliary Tuberculosis, 1 to protracted birth, 1 to congenital cerebral defect, 1 to spina bifida and 1 to accidental suffocation.

Four of these infants did not survive their birth a week.

There were no deaths from Measles, Whooping Cough, or Diarrhoea, under 2 years of age, during the year.

MORTALITY

The number of deaths at all ages registered during the year was 198, 94 males and 104 females, giving a death rate of 10.08 as compared with that for England and Wales which is 11.6 The death rate, when adjusted in accordance with the Registrar General's Areal Comparability Factor is 8.87

Forty-one of these deaths took place in institutions outside the district, 22 males and 19 females.

The death rate from Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System was 0.25

The death rate from other Tubercular Diseases was 0.10

The death rate from Cancer was 1.42

The above rates are calculated on the estimated resident population given by the Registrar General as 19,640, a decrease of 150 on that for 1937.

The causes of death were:—

Other Liver Diseases ..	3	Heart disease	42
Other Digestive diseases ..	6	Other Circulatory diseases ..	16
Acute and Chronic Nephritis ..	7	Bronchitis	4
Congenital debility, premature birth, etc	6	Pneumonia	8
Senility	17	Other Respiratory diseases ..	2
Suicide	2	Appendicitis	2
Other Violence	13	Cirrhosis of Liver	3
Other Defined diseases ..	12	Influenza	2
Diabetes	2	Tuberculosis of the respiratory system .. .	5
Cerebral Haemorrhage ..	16	Other Tuberculosis	2
		Cancer	28

General Provision of Health Services for the Area

1. Public Health Officers of the Authority. Medical Officer of Health—Lieut. Col. J. M. H. Conway, D.S.O., F.R.C.S.I., L.R.C.P.I., D.P.H. (Cambridge University).

Sanitary Inspector, who is also Surveyor—Mr. J. Turrill, Cert. Roy. San. Inst., also Testamur of Institute of Municipal and County Engineers.

Additional Sanitary Inspector—Mr. J. Hunt, Certificates of the Royal Sanitary Institute, and Sanitary Inspector's Examination Joint Board; and Meat and other Foods Inspectors' Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

Temporary Assistant Sanitary Inspector (appointed for Housing duties). Mr. J. Hill, Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute, and Sanitary Inspector's Examination Joint Board.

2. Laboratory Facilities. Specimens for bacteriological and pathological report are forwarded to the City Laboratory, Nottingham. Specimens for chemical report are sent to the City Analyst, Sheffield. Samples of milk for bacteriological count and biological test for bacillus tuberculosis are forwarded to the Pathology Department of the Victoria Hospital, Worksop.

3. Ambulance Facilities. (a) An ambulance is maintained by the North Notts. Joint Isolation Hospital Board, for the removal of all infectious cases to Hospital. The East Retford Corporation also maintain an ambulance which can be hired by the Rural District Council if required.

(b) Two ambulances are maintained for the removal of non-infectious and accident cases to hospital by the Retford and District Ambulance Committee, a voluntary body. These arrangements appear to be quite satisfactory, and have met the needs of the district.

4. Nursing in the Home. No direct provision is made by the Council for professional nursing in the home, either for infectious or other cases.

The Notts. Nursing Federation is, however, provided with considerable grants from the County Council funds in respect of

specified services, including the maintenance of rural nursing associations. Nursing Associations affiliated to the Federation are at work in the following districts—

Babworth and Osberton, Clayworth, Gringley and Wiseton, Dunham, East Drayton and District, East Markham, Tuxford.

There are also Associations not affiliated to the Notts. Nursing Federation in the following areas—

Rampton, Treswell and Woodbeck, Walkeringham and Misterton.

5. Treatment Centres and Clinics. The Maternity and Child Welfare and School Medical Services are under the control of the County Council. There are Maternity and Child Welfare and Ante-Natal Clinics at :—Misterton, Tuxford, Barnby Moor, Dunham-on-Trent, Gringley-on-the-Hill, South Leverton.

The Tuberculosis Dispensary is under the administration of the County Council, and is held at the Out Patient Department of the Retford and District Hospital, on Tuesday afternoons, from 2 to 4 p.m.

6. Hospitals. (a) There are no Hospitals maintained by the Rural District Council. There are, however, general hospitals in Doncaster, Gainsborough, Lincoln, Newark, Nottingham, Mansfield, Sheffield, Worksop and Retford.

The County Institution Infirmary is situated in the Borough of East Retford, and beds are available for the following services—

General Medical	..	..	..	59
Children	..	..	..	5
Maternity	..	..	..	4

Arrangements for the treatment of Puerperal Pyrexia and complicated maternity cases are under the control of the County Council.

(b) Isolation Hospitals. Infectious diseases which occurred in the Rural District were formally treated under arrangements with the Corporation of the Borough of East Retford, with the exception of cases of Cerebro-Spinal Fever, which were transferred to the Lodge Moor Fever Hospital, Sheffield.

These arrangements terminated on the 1st February, 1938, under the scheme for the union of the districts for the provision of

hospital accommodation between the Boroughs of Retford and Worksop, and the Rural Districts of Retford and Worksop. Since this date all cases of infectious diseases have been transferred to the Joint Isolation Hospital, North Carlton, near Worksop.

On the 1st May, 1938, the North Notts. Joint Smallpox Hospital Board came into being, and this board are now arranging for the treatment of any cases of smallpox which may arise in the district.

7. Midwives. Under the terms of the Midwives Act, 1936, the County Council have appointed the following midwives for this district—

Hayton, Sutton, Lound, Mattersey, Everton, Scaftworth, Misson, Finningley, Claborough, Grove, Saundby, Bole, West Burton, North Wheatley, South Wheatley, Sturton, North Leverton, South Leverton, Cottam, Treswell, Rampton, West Stockwith—Nurse E. A. Hardy, Welham Road, Retford, Nurse F. E. Hardy, Welham Road, Retford, Nurse L. N. Pearson, 12 Victoria Road, Retford, Nurse O. A. Scotney, 54 Ollerton Road, Retford.

Scrooby, Ranskill, Torworth, Barnby Moor—Nurse L. M. Mastin, Manor Farm, Torworth. (District Nurse).

Babworth, Scofton, Osberton—Nurse E. G. Wright, Church House, Ranby. (District Nurse).

East Markham (less Markham Moor), Eaton, Headon, Askham—Nurse A. W. Watson, High Street, East Markham. (District Nurse).

Dunham, Stokeham, Laneham, East Drayton, Ragnall, Darlton, Fledborough—Nurse D. Siderfin, Manor Farm, Laneham. (District Nurse).

Tuxford, Gamston, West Drayton, Markham Moor, West Markham, Haughton, Bevercotes, Egmanton—Nurse J. Brazier, 138 Lincoln Road, Tuxford. (District Nurse).

Elkesley, Bothamsall—Nurse E. Outram, 4 Sherwood Drive, New Ollerton.

Misterton, Walkeringham—Nurse C. M. Torr, Walkeringham. (District Nurse).

Gringley, Wiseton, Beckingham, Clayworth—Nurse F. Hall, Rood House, Gringley-on-the-Hill. (District Nurse).

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

Water Supply. Twelve further parishes have been placed on a public water supply which comes from the Lincoln Corporation Rising Main, and one parish in the Northern Area is supplied by agreement with the Doncaster and Tickhill Joint Water Board—the total number of parishes with a piped water supply now being 35. The responsibility for the standard of purity of the water supplied, rests with the Lincoln Corporation, and the Doncaster and Tickhill Joint Water Board, but as a precautionary measure, samples of water from these supplies have been submitted for bacteriological examination monthly, and they have invariably been found to be satisfactory.

Most of the 12 parishes referred to, which now obtain their water from the Lincoln Corporation, will eventually have their supply from the Council's new Pumping Station situated near Everton. Arrangements have been made whereby these and other villages can be supplied from the Lincoln main, should the necessity arise.

The new Pumping Station is situated on the East of the road, between Everton and Mattersey, about half a mile south of the village of Everton. There are two boreholes which extend to a depth of 450 feet, and are lined for some 200 feet. The strata through which the bores extend, is largely composed of sand, and there would not appear to be any impervious layer between the surface and the water-bearing stratum. The boreholes are situated some 20 yards from the road, on the face of a small hill, and with the exception of a house some 200 yards to the north, there would appear to be no other habitation in the neighbourhood. The Council have acquired two acres of land around the boreholes which, considering the depths of these holes and the distance lined, gives at present, reasonable security against contamination reaching the water supply. There is only one point which requires comment. It is understood that the sand in this area has a marketable value, and the question arises that should excavations for sand take place, outside the area acquired for protection, to a considerable depth, it might be possible that during heavy pumping, when a large cone of negative pressure is formed, the purity of the water supply would become endangered. The Council has taken this contingency into consideration, and the fact that it might not at all times be possible to prevent developments in the area, and has decided to install a chlorination plant,

which could be brought into use should the necessity arise, the Council are also considering the purchase of more land to be included in the protected area.

The work of laying mains for the Northern Area, and the construction of the reservoir and water tower at Gringley-on-the-Hill, is now in hand, and it is hoped that there will be no interruption, and that the work will be completed within a reasonable time.

A report of the analysis from the borehole is as follows—

REPORT on two samples of Water received from the East Retford Rural District Council, per J. Turrill, Esq., Surveyor, 2 Market Square, Retford, Notts.

MARK : New Borehole at Everton	After 7 days pumping Sample Rec'd February 25/38	After 14 days pumping. Sample rec'd March 4/38
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PHYSICAL CHARACTERS

Suspended Matter	none	none
Appearance of a column 2ft. long	clear :	clear :
	faintly	faintly
	yellowish	yellowish
Taste	normal	normal
Odour	none	none

Chemical Examination

		Parts per 100,000	
Total Solids dried at 180°C	17.0	18.0	
Chlorides in terms of Chlorine	1.30	1.30	
Equivalent to Sodium Chloride	2.13	2.13	
Nitrates	—	—	
Nitrates as Nitrogen	0.26	0.26	
Poisonous Metals (Lead, etc.)	—	—	
Total Hardness	14.0	14.0	
Temporary Hardness	12.9	12.9	
Permanent Hardness	1.1	1.1	
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F ..	0.034	0.031	
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.0090	0.0080	
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.0008	0.0012	
P.H. value	8.2	8.0	

Bacteriological Examination.

B. Coli Test

Probable number of Bacteria of the Coli Aerogenes

Group present in 100 miles of the water	0	0
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The results obtained on the two samples are practically identical, and the same remarks will apply.

I would class the supply as slightly hard, the hardness being practically all temporary.

The amount of mineral matter in solution is low.

The only peculiarity about the water is the high Ammoniacal Nitrogen figure. A high Ammoniacal Nitrogen figure is frequently found in water derived from a deep source and is not in any way an index of pollution.

The low Oxygen absorbed and Albuminoid Nitrogen figures show the water to be of a fairly high degree of organic purity.

The Bacteriological results confirm this—organisms of the Coli Aerogenes Group being absent in 100 miles of the water.

This is very satisfactory.

The water is slightly alkaline in character as shown by the P.H. values.

The water will have a tendency to “fur” the pipes in a hot water system, due to the throwing out of the temporary hardness.

Yours faithfully,

Signed, JOHN EVANS.

Drainage and Sewerage. Three parishes in the district have sewage disposal schemes, namely Ranskill, East Markham and Tuxford. The question of other schemes will, in the near future, require consideration.

Several minor improvements have been effected during the year, and are referred to in the Sanitary Inspector's report.

Rivers and Streams. The River Trent forms part of the Eastern boundary of the district, and the River Idle and its tributaries run through the area, from the south-west to the North east. There are also various artificial dykes cut for drainage purposes, all of which, including the River Idle, eventually fall into the River Trent. There has been no serious flooding since the date of my last report. The Council's Officers in co-operation with the County Inspector are carefully supervising all possible sources of contamination of the streams and are taking reasonable precautions against pollution.

Closet Accommodation. Pail closets and privy ashpits are in common use. In the larger houses water closets have been fitted, the excrement being disposed of by tank treatment and the effluent taken to the public sewers. The number of water closets provided as a result of informal notices was four.

Public Cleansing. Tuxford is the only parish in the district where there is a public scavenging scheme in operation, but the time is fast approaching when the question of extending public scavenging to all parishes in the area must be considered, but with the Housing and Water activities of the Council, this matter will have to be deferred for the present.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area. The Inspectors have been very fully employed throughout the year, but they have found time to keep the area generally under satisfactory sanitary surveillance.

Shops and Offices. The shops in the area have been regularly inspected during the year.

Camping Sites. There are four camping sites in the area, and four licences have been issued by the Local Authority under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936. The estimated maximum number of campers who were resident in the area at one time during the summer season of 1938, was 25.

Smoke Abatement. There has been no nuisance from smoke in the area during the year.

Swimming Baths and Pools. There are no swimming baths or pools in the district.

Eradication of Bed Bugs. During the year two privately-owned houses were found to be infested with bed bugs, and notices were served on the owner or occupier concerned to disinfest. Advice was given by the Sanitary Inspectors on the methods to be adopted, which in each case consisted of spraying with "Zaldecide". The belongings of new tenants were inspected to ensure that they were free from vermin before removal to Council houses. The work of disinfestation is carried out by the tenants or landlords concerned.

Schools. The Schools in the area are mostly of an old type, but no serious overcrowding has come to notice, and the general sanitary and hygienic conditions have been attended to. As public water supplies reach the various villages, the schools are being connected, and it is hoped that eventually all schools will be placed on the water carriage system. The number of infectious diseases both minor and otherwise, which have occurred amongst the scholars have been on the whole small. There has been no serious outbreak in any village.

Recreation and Playing Fields. There is a singular absence throughout the area of suitable recreation and playing fields in most villages. Although the Local Government Act of 1894 gave local authorities power to provide such recreation fields, up to the present very little has been done in this direction. The Government is providing financial assistance for the National Fitness Council to assist local authorities in the provision of recreation grounds. It is trusted that full advantage may be taken of these facilities whilst they are available. If it is desired to maintain the population of the villages, it is essential that something definite should be done to make village life more attractive, and this to some extent can be done at a low cost, by the provision of suitable recreation grounds.

Housing

Number of houses erected during the year 1938.

1. By Private Enterprise without Subsidy—							
Brick Construction	..	..	..	..	..	..	35
Timber Bungalows	1
Total							36

2. By the Council under the Housing Act, 1936					47
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1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year—

(1) ..(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	529
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose					728
(2) ..(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulation, 1925	..	..	..	..	..	389
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose					386
(3) ..	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	..	..	..	..	..	150
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceeding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	..	..	..	..	..	266

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice—

Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers		57
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year—

(a) ..	Proceeding under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936	134
(b) ..	Proceedings under the Public Health Acts	..					—
(c) ..	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936	..	..	..	..	..	150
(d) ..	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936	..	..	..	..	..	—

4. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding—

(a)—	(i)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	36
	(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein ..	36
	(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein ..	256
(b)—		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	2
(c)—	(i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	18
	(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	106
(d)—		Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil

HOUSING

Housing Conditions. A complete survey of all the working class houses in the parishes of Tuxford and Normanton-on-Trent has been completed during 1938, and the survey is proceeding in several other parishes. It will be seen that a total of 416 houses have been found defective. 150 required Official Representations, and 134 were dealt with under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936. Of the houses represented, action has been taken by the Council for 59 and Demolition Orders made for 26. All the houses which have been officially represented were of a very old type, none of which were less than 150 years old, and during the past 30 years ordinary repairs and improvements have been totally neglected.

In the case of 26 houses for which Demolition Orders were made, the owners declined to reconstruct as the cost would have exceeded the value of the houses.

The Sanitary Inspector in his report has made a comprehensive statement showing in detail the action taken and the position with regard to the erection of new houses. It should be noted that 47 new houses for the re-housing of dispossessed tenants have been completed and occupied, 96 are under construction, and in the case of 51, sites have been acquired and plans prepared, but the work has not yet commenced. It is trusted that all these houses will be practically completed during this year, or early next year, as the conditions of tenants occupying condemned houses are far from satisfactory, and it is hoped that few of these tenants will be called upon to face another winter in similar conditions.

From the statement referred to, it is evident that the work carried out during the year for the alleviation of bad housing conditions in the area has been very considerable. It has not only been done in an efficient and thorough manner, but owners and tenants have received from the Officers concerned both help and consideration.

Owners have been materially assisted and advised in bringing forward plans for the reconstruction of their property, and their attention has always been drawn to the facilities available for help under the Housing (Rural Workers) Act, 1926-1936, and I am glad to state that advantage has been taken of these facilities to a considerable extent.

Should no international situation arise to interfere with the the present scheme as outlined in my previous report, for the rehousing, re-conditioning and repairing of working class houses in the district, the scheme for the whole district will in all probability be completed at the expiration of another two years.

When this has been done then the conditions of life for the working class population of the area will be vastly changed, both as regards health and comfort. Furthermore, the tendency for the more enterprising and younger population to migrate into the towns owing to bad housing conditions and lack of ordinary amenities, will tend to diminish. In this connection there is one other point requiring comment, and that is the very definite shortage of houses at low and moderate rents in many of the villages, with the result that men employed in the Rural District are compelled to live in neighbouring towns and travel considerable distances from their work.

General. There is one point regarding the new houses now being erected, which calls for special remarks, and that is the very satisfactory type of house which is being erected, not only from the point of view of comfort and health, but also from the fact that the design has been made to harmonise with the district in which they are erected. This may seem a very small matter, but it is not without its importance, as the erection of unsuitably designed houses would alter considerably the characteristics of a village, and would deservedly merit adverse criticism. The houses which have been erected up to the present are not only well designed but are of a very sound structure and have all ordinary amenities.

The reconstructions which have now been completed have very definitely improved the standard of fitness of these houses. The work has been supervised in the most satisfactory manner, and in all cases the life of the houses has been extended for at least 20 or 30 years. The work in connection with both the planning of new houses and the supervision in connection with the reconstruction and repairs have been so satisfactorily carried out that I cannot refrain from bringing these specially to the notice of the Council. The only comment which I should like to make is the question of whether or not in all cases of reconstruction a bathroom should be provided. It is my opinion that a bathroom is essential, as it is obvious that where there is a family of small children the extra work thrown on the mother must be serious, or else the personal hygiene of the children becomes neglected.

Overcrowding. There were 52 houses shown as overcrowded at the end of 1937, 2 other houses were added during the year 1938, bringing the total to 54. 11 of these were abated by rehousing in Council houses, and 7 by ordinary changes in tenancy leaving the number at present overcrowded at 36, which will require to be dealt with in the near future.

Inspection and Supervision of Food

Milk. There are 501 registered milk producers in the district, of which 194 are retailers. The Sanitary Inspector made 284 visits to these dairies, and submitted 18 samples for the methylene blue test, of which 11 were unsatisfactory. The number of samples submitted was so small, that it is difficult to express an opinion with regard to the cleanliness of the milk, but so far as the percentage of unsatisfactory samples is shown, the standard of cleanliness would appear to be low. The responsibility for inspection of milch cows for Tuberculosis was taken over by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries under the Agriculture Act, of 1937, on April 1st, 1938. Since that date I have been informed that 29 animals were slaughtered for Tuberculosis. This number is low compared to the previous year.

The County Council, through their Food and Drugs Department, have taken herd samples quarterly of Accredited herds, and there was only one sample positive for Tuberculosis bacilli. The animal responsible was subsequently discovered and slaughtered.

The number of samples submitted for examination was considerably below that for the previous years, and this is accounted for by the fact of the transfer of the responsibilities for the inspection of the animals from the County Council to the Ministry of Agriculture. The County Medical Officer and the Ministry's Senior Veterinary Officer for the area have been good enough to keep me informed of the results of the examinations in the district, and as time progresses, and the scheme becomes more fully operative, it is hoped that the co-operation between the different authorities will be extended.

It will be seen from the Sanitary Inspector's report that a considerable amount of work has been done in the improvement of the conditions of cowsheds. 89 have had various repairs carried out and 12 premises have been totally reconstructed. This is a step in the right direction, as it is difficult to see how clean milk can be produced and animals kept in a satisfactory state of health, in many of the sheds throughout the area.

Meat. There are 20 registered and 6 licensed slaughter houses in the district, to which 537 inspections were paid by the Inspector. The supervision maintained over these slaughter

houses, considering that they are scattered over a wide district, has been satisfactory. The meat sold, so far as can be ascertained, was of a good quality.

The following quantity of meat was condemned by the Inspector—

24 Beasts Heads and Tongues	Tuberculosis and Actinomycosis.
20 Beasts Livers	Abcesses, tuberculosis, cysts etc.
23 Pigs Heads	Tuberculosis
22 Pigs Livers, etc.	Cirrhosis, tuberculosis, etc.
33 Sheeps Livers	Flukes, cirrhosis, cysts, etc.
Five whole carcasses of Beef	Tuberculosis
Two forequarters of Beef	Tuberculosis
Two hindquarters of Beef	Tuberculosis
Two whole carcasses of Pork	Swine Fever
One Calf	Immaturity
Four Sheep	Emaciation and Dropsy
Hindquarter of Pork	Extensive Bruising

There are a few modern types of slaughterhouses in the district, but on the whole, those which exist, have been maintained as far as has been practical in a sanitary state, and the owners have complied with the Regulations.

Adulteration, etc. The sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1928, is carried out by the County Council.

Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.
See page 7 paragraph 2

Nutrition. There is no evidence to show any alteration in the general standard of nutrition of the inhabitants of the area. At the same time, it must not be assumed that improvements cannot take place. The standard of wages of the agricultural labourer is not high, and where there are children, judgement in the expenditure of the family income is essential, and if such was combined with some knowledge of food values, it would be most beneficial. In a Rural District it might be expected that fresh milk, vegetables and meat would form a stable portion of the family diet, but unfortunately this is more the exception than the rule. Salted and tinned foods have in many cases replaced other forms to a surprising extent, and even in some families tinned milk is used instead of fresh.

The cottager cannot be blamed altogether in this matter as there are many living in isolated cottages, such as gamekeepers and shepherds, where it is impossible for them to purchase fresh milk, and others can only obtain skimmed or separated milk. It must not be assumed from this remark, that skimmed or separated milk has no food values, on the contrary, it is quite valuable and should be more extensively used.

If the housewife in expending her share of the family income, would endeavour to bring into the diet, such articles as fresh fish, especially mackerels and herrings, eggs, milk, fresh vegetables and wholemeal bread, instead of salted and tinned meats and slabs of cake, it would have a definite beneficial effect on the health of the family. These remarks, are not in all cases applicable to the cottage dweller, or those with the small incomes, as it is not at all an uncommon sight to see pale, pinched and unhealthy looking children belonging to the well-to-do classes. This is due entirely to wrong feeding and insufficient care in the choice of diet. At the same time, where food is ample, it is more likely to be varied, than amongst those who have to use greater judgement in the expenditure of their income.

Shellfish. There are no shellfish beds or layings in the area, and no shellfish are marketed in the district.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and Other Diseases

Scarlet Fever. There were 21 cases of Scarlet Fever reported during the year, 10 of which were treated in the North Carlton Isolation Hospital, 4 in the Arlington House Isolation Hospital, Retford, and 1 in the Doncaster Isolation Hospital. Six cases were nursed at home. The disease was generally of a mild type and there were no deaths. There was no special prevalence of the disease in any village or parish, the highest number of cases occurred at Tuxford.

Diphtheria. Four cases were reported during the year. Two cases were treated in the North Carlton Isolation Hospital, and one in Arlington House Isolation Hospital. The remaining case was nursed at home. The disease was not of a severe variety and there were no deaths.

Pneumonia. 24 cases of pneumonia were notified during the year, with 8 deaths. The number of cases is lower than that for the previous year.

Tuberculosis. Seven cases of Pulmonary and three cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis, with five and two deaths respectively, were notified as compared with 17 cases of Pulmonary and 6 cases of Non-Pulmonary in the previous year, with 8 and 2 deaths. There were no non-notified T.B. deaths.

No action was taken during the year under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

Influenza. Two deaths were registered from this disease.

General. The total number of infectious diseases reported during 1938 is considerably lower than that for the previous year.

Prevention of Blindness. This question hardly arises in a Rural District. The Maternity and Child Welfare and The School Medical Services, also the arrangements for the treatment of V.D. diseases are carried out by the County Council.

There are no large works, and there are only a few men employed in the Surveyors Department.

Notifiable Infectious Diseases

STATISTICAL TABLES
1938

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

notified during the year 1938

Disease	Total Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	21	1 (a) 4 (b) 10 (c)	Nil
Diphtheria	4	1 (b) 2 (c)	—
Pneumonia	24	1 (d) 1 (e)	8
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	2 (f)	—
Erysipelas	6	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	7	2 (g) 1 (h) 1 (i)	5
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	3	1 (i)	2
Totals ..	69	27	15

(a) Doncaster Isolation Hospital

(b) Arlington House Isolation Hospital

(c) North Carlton Isolation Hospital

(d) Retford and District Hospital

(e) County Hospital, Worksop

(f) Edenfield Nursing Home,
Doncaster

(g) Ransom Sanatorium, Rainworth

(h) Sheffield Royal Infirmary

(i) Kilton Hill County Hospital

Table showing Infections Diseases notified month by month during 1938

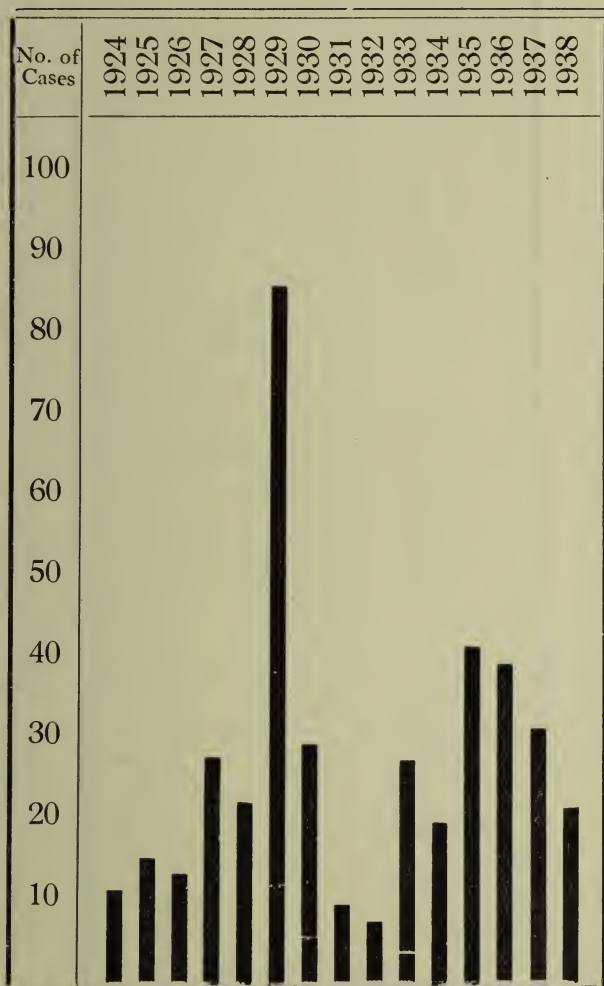
Month	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Pneumonia	Puerperal Pyrexia	Erysipelas	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Totals
January ..	6	1	6	—	2	—	—	—	15
February ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
March ..	2	1	2	1	—	—	1	—	7
April ..	—	—	6	—	—	—	1	1	8
May ..	—	—	3	—	2	1	3	1	10
June ..	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3
July ..	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	4
August ..	—	2	1	1	1	—	1	—	6
September ..	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
October ..	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
November ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
December ..	1	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	4
Totals ..	21	4	24	3	6	1	7	3	69

TUBERCULOSIS 1938

Age Periods		New Cases				Deaths			
		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1	..	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
1—2	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2—3	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3—4	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4—5	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	..	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
10—15	..	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
15—20	..	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
20—35	..	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
35—45	..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
45—65	..	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
65and over	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	..	4	3	1	2	2	3	2	—

SCARLET FEVER

Incidence of Disease during Fifteen years



Scale—24 Cases to the inch

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

notified during the year 1938

	At all ages	Under 1	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—25	25—35	35—45	45—65	65 and over
Scarlet Fever ..	21	—	1	2	1	1	8	6	—	2	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ..	4	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ..	24	1	1	—	1	—	3	—	—	3	2	2	8	5
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	4
Erysipelas ..	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Neonatorum ..	7	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	1	—	—	1	—
Pulmonary ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Pulmonary ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis ..	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—
Totals ..	69	3	2	2	2	1	13	9	4	11	4	9	9	9

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES notified during the year 1938

	Askham	Beckingham	Babworth	Clayworth	Dunham	Darlon	East Drayton	East Markham	Elkessley	Everton	Finningley	Gringley-on-the-Hill	Garnston	Lound	Hayton	North Leverton	South Leverton	Misterton	Misson	Mattersey	North Wheatley	South Wheatley	Rampton	Sutton	Saundby	Sturton-le-Steeple	Tuxford	Torworth	Upton	Wakeringham	Woodbeck	West Stockwith
Scarlet Fever	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	1	..	..	3	3	3	..	..	1	1	2	2	..	6	..	..	..	1	1	1
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	1	..	..	1	2	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	3	1	..	1	1	1
Pneumonia	..	1	1	1	..	1	1	2	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Pyrexia	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	1	2	2	4	1	1	2	3	2	1	1	3	3	1	1	1	4	6	2	2	2	1	1	3	1	2	9	1	1	2	1	2

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

Sewerage. The following work has been carried out during the year—

PARISH

Tuxford A length of 34 yards of 6 inch sewer has been laid and one manhole built in Ollerton Road, Tuxford, to provide for the drainage from new houses.

A contribution of £10 was made by the owners of the property concerned towards the cost of this work.

At Tuxford No. 1 sewage outfall, new fencing was fixed round the sewage tanks which are now used as open settlement tanks.

Beckingham A section of the public sewer in Wood Lane at the junction with the new bye-pass road has been relaid and two manholes built. This work was carried out by the County Council.

Everton The existing underground sewage tank on the main outfall sewer has been opened, reconstructed and fenced off, and is now used as an open settlement tank.

The following new manholes have been built on existing public sewers—

Cottam 1, Lound 1, Hayton 1.

During the year, repairs have been carried out to 16 existing manholes and catchpits in the district, and defective sewers have been opened and repaired in the parishes of—

Saundby, East Markham, Misterton, Tuxford, Finningley, North Wheatley.

Cowsheds

No. of registered producers of milk in the district	
January, 1938	501

No. of applications from producers of milk in the district, for registration as wholesale and/or retail purveyors of milk	16
---	----

No. of registered producers of milk in the district	
December, 1938	517

Of the above number, 194 carry on the trade as retail purveyors of milk.

Notices have been served during the year requiring the following work to be carried out—

1. Limewash and cleansing of sheds	41
2. Removal of accumulations of refuse.	23
3. Additional light and ventilation to be provided	6
4. Repairs to floors, paving, roof etc.	13
5. Improvements to drainage, etc.	6
Total	89

In addition to the above, the cowsheds on 12 premises occupied by registered cowkeepers have been reconstructed during the year.

Milk, Special Designations, Order, 1936. 2 licenses have been renewed, and 1 new supplementary license issued by the Rural District Council to retailers of pasteurised milk in the District.

Slaughterhouses

The number of slaughterhouses in the district is—
Registered 20, Licensed Annually 6, Total 26.

There are also two knackers' yards in the district, both of which are registered.

During the year, 537 inspections have been made of slaughterhouse premises, for the purpose of meat inspection, etc.

The following notices were served during the year in respect of the above slaughterhouses—

Limewash and Cleansing	..	6
Removal of refuse	.. ..	4
Structural defects	.. ..	3

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933

Number of licensed slaughtermen, January, 1938	..	..	62		
Number of new applications for Slaughtermen's licenses received during the year	..	..	..	..	1
Number in force in the district	..	..	..	..	<u>63</u>

Shops Act 1934

Number of shops at present on the Council's Register .. 73

Bakehouses

Number of Bakehouses in the District 9

There are no underground bakehouses in the district.

Four notices have been served to limewash and cleanse bakehouses.

Disinfection

All houses at which cases of notifiable infectious disease occurred during the year have been disinfected.

This Council is one of the constituent authorities of the North Notts. Joint Hospital Board, to whose Isolation Hospital patients are removed from this district.

Bedding is taken with the patient, for disinfection at the Hospital's premises.

Public Scavenging

Public scavenging is carried out in only one parish in the Rural District, viz : Tuxford.

The work is carried out by contract.

During the year it was found necessary to replace the existing sanitary cart, and a 200 gallon Tumbler Cart was purchased for this purpose.

Public Water Supplies

During the year a piped public water supply was provided for the parishes of—

Treswell and South Leverton in the Southern Area, No. 3 scheme, and North Leverton, Sturton, North Wheatley, South Wheatley, Hayton, Clarborough, Bole, Saundby, Beckingham and Walkeringham in the Northern Area Scheme.

The work of main laying is also proceeding in the parishes of Clayworth, Misterton and Gringley, on this scheme.

The water supply for the parishes in the Northern Area will eventually be obtained from the two boreholes which have now been completed on the site adjoining the Everton—Mattersey Road.

Work on the Pumping Station and Attendant's Cottage on this site will shortly be commenced and the construction of the Reservoir and Water Tower at Gringley-on-the-Hill is nearing completion.

As considerable delay arose in the sinking of the boreholes, an agreement was entered into for a temporary supply of water to be obtained from the Lincoln Corporation and a connection was made with the Council's main at Leverton, in the Southern Area, where the supply is taken direct from the Lincoln Corporation's Rising Main.

In those parishes in the Northern Area, where main laying has been completed, water is being supplied from this temporary supply which will continue until the Council's Pumping Station at Everton has been completed.

A fourteen days continuous pumping test at No. 1 borehole, Everton, proved the water to be satisfactory in quantity, and a copy of a report of the analyst on two samples of water taken during the pumping test which shows the water to be satisfactory in quality, is shown on page 11.

The following new water supplies have been laid on during the year, 1938—

	Dwelling houses and other occupied premises supplied				Fields supplied
Askham	1				—
Beckingham	17				—
Bevercotes	3				—
Bole	5				—
Bothamsall	1				—
Clarborough	28				—
Cottam	15				—
Darlington	1				—
Drayton, East	2				—
Drayton, West	2				—
Dunham	—				2
Eaton	1				—
Elkesley	2				—
Finningley	88				—
Gamston	4				—
Haughton	7				—
Hayton	30				—
Laneham	3				—
Leverton, North ..	41				1
Leverton, South ..	27				—
Marnham	8				—
Markham, East	4				—
Normanton	5				1
Rampton	10				—
Saundby	5				—
Stokeham	8				2
Sturton	19				—
Treswell	22				1
Tuxford	6				3
Wheatley, North ..	54				2
Wheatley, South ..	4				—
					—
Totals ..	423				12
					—

Housing

Of the 171 houses proposed to be erected under the Council's second re-housing programme, houses have been completed and occupied in the following parishes—

Parish	No. of houses
Misson	5
Lound	4
Hayton	6
East Markham	4
	—
Total ..	19
	—

Houses have been completed and are ready for occupation in the following parishes—

Parish	No. of Houses
West Stockwith	8
Everton	20
	—
Total ..	28
	—

Houses are in course of erection in the following parishes—

Parish	No. of Houses
Misterton	38
Tuxford	2
East Drayton	3
Torworth	15
Beckingham	3
Walkeringham	8
	—
Total ..	69
	—

Housing sites have been acquired in the following parishes and arrangements are now being made for building operations to commence—

Parish	No. of Houses
Gringley	20
Sturton	6
Treswell	9
Ragnall	12
Barnby Moor	4
	—
Total ..	51
	—

Total number of houses to be constructed in the scheme, 167.

The remaining four houses, formerly included in the scheme are no longer required due to condemned property having become vacant.

Housing Act. (Third Programme)

Number of houses represented as being unfit for human habitation, during the year, 1938	.. .. .	150
Number of demolition orders made	.. .. .	26
Number of houses in respect of which undertakings were accepted to reconstruct	.. .. .	31
Number of houses in respect of which undertakings were accepted to close for human habitation and use only for storage after being altered as to be incapable of habitation	.. .. .	2
Number of houses in respect of which Official Representations were made, but cases in which action by the Council was not completed during the year	.. ..	91
	Total	150
Number of houses in respect of which demolition orders were outstanding—December, 1937	.. .. .	133
Number of houses demolished during the year, 1938	..	14
Number of houses remaining to be demolished at December, 1938—2nd programme	.. .. .	119
Number of houses in respect of which demolition orders have been served during 1938, under the Council's 3rd Housing Programme	.. .. .	26
Total number of houses remaining to be demolished..	..	145

During the year, the work required on 5 houses in respect of which Re-construction Schemes had formerly been accepted by the Council, under Section 11 of the Housing Act, has been completed.

Housing Act, Section 9.

Number of houses in respect of which Formal Notice has been served to carry out repairs, during the year	134
Number of houses in respect of which Formal Notice under Section 9 had been complied with	5
Number of houses in respect of which Formal Notices are outstanding, under Section 9	<hr/> 129 <hr/>

Overcrowding

Number of cases of Overcrowding remaining to be dealt with at January, 1938	52
Number of cases of Overcrowding ascertained during the year	2
Total ..	<hr/> 54 <hr/>

Overcrowding abated during the year—

(a) By ordinary changes in tenancy	7	
(b) By re-housing in Council Houses	11	18
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net number of cases of Overcrowding remaining to be dealt with—December 1938		36
		<hr/>

Town and Country Planning

The East Retford Rural District Council is one of the constituent authorities of the East Retford and Worksop Regional Planning Joint Committee.

The whole of the Rural District of East Retford is included in the Regional Planning Scheme which is being prepared by this Joint Committee, and control of developments throughout the whole of the Rural District is being carried out by the Council under the Interim Development Order, 1933.

During the year 83 applications have been dealt with as follows—

54 Certificates have been issued permitting developments.

26 Certificates have been issued permitting development subject to certain conditions.

3 Certificates have been issued refusing permission to develop

Summary

Complaints and Inspections—

1 ..	Number of complaints received during the year ..	82
2 ..	Number of Houses, Premises, etc., inspected ..	2038
3 ..	Number of Re-inspections of Houses, Premises, etc.	199

Results of Inspections—

	Notice served	Statutory	Informal
4 ..	Abatement of Nuisance	1	33
5 ..	Provision of New Drains	0	17
6 ..	Provision of Sanitary Acc.	0	18
7 ..	Provision of Wholesome Water	1	16
			Total 86

Work carried out as result of above Notices—

8 ..	Houses, Premises, etc., cleansed	6
9 ..	Drains to Houses and Buildings : New provided ..	26
10 ..	Drains to Houses Repaired, Cleansed, Trapped, etc.	19
11 ..	Water Closets : New provided	4
12 ..	Privies Repaired	11
13 ..	Pail Closets : New provided, and repaired	11
14 ..	Removals of Refuse	26
15 ..	Paving : New provided ; repaired	18
16 ..	Sanitary Accommodation. Conversions	
	Privies converted to pails	8
	Pails converted to Water Closets	1
		—
		Total 9
		—

Water Supply—

17 ..	Pumps and Wells Cleansed, Repaired, Covered, etc.	3
18 ..	New Piped Supplies from Public Main	423

Canal Boats Act—

Number of Canal Boats inspected	3
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Legal Proceedings—

Summonses	—
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Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health, for the year 1938, for the Rural District of East Retford, on the Administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, and the Factories Act, 1937 in connection with Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

1. Inspection of Factories, Workshops, and Workplaces, including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector or Inspector of Nuisances

1—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS

Premises (1)	Inspection (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers prosecuted (4)
FACTORIES with mechanical power	—	—	—
FACTORIES without mechanical power	37	4	—
*OTHER PREMISES . . under the Act (including works of building and en- gineering construction but not including outworkers' premises.	—	—	—
Total	37	4	—

* Electric Stations should be reckoned as factories.

2—DEFECTS FOUND

Particulars (1)	Number of Defects			Number of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.)	3	3	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ..	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6)	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S7) insufficient	1	1	—	—
unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—
not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences	—	—	—	—
Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule of the Ministry of Health, (Factories and Workshops Transfer to Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule of the Factories Act, 1937.)				
Total	4	4	—	—

